

146. The implant of claim 144, wherein said fusion promoting substance includes hydroxyapatite.

147. The implant of claim 144, wherein said fusion promoting substance is genes coding for the production of bone.

148. The implant of claim 144, wherein said fusion promoting substance is bone.--.

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**REMARKS**

Entry and consideration of this Amendment prior to the examination of the above-identified application is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account 50-1066.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 23, 2002

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